Resident (Non-Repatriable) Rupee Deposit scheme (which was not a part of external debt) with effect from April 1, 2002. Increase in commercial borrowings reflected larger access to international capital market by Indian Corporates. The surge in short-term debt was on account of increase in trade credits because of larger import demand.

(c) Government follows a prudent external debt management policy to keep external debt within manageable limits. The policy focus is on concessional loans, longer maturity profiles, close monitoring of short-term debt and laying emphasis on non-debt creating capital flows.

Defaulters of bank loans

838. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra, Delhi and Tamil Nadu are the top three defaulters of bank loans of about one crore as per the list compiled by All India Banks Employees Association;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Tamil Nadu alone constitutes Rs. 10,755 crores as bad loans which is 11 per cent of the total all India level; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to recover the loans from the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Government has not received any communication from the All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA) in this regard. As per information reported by banks/FIs to the Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited, Maharashtra (Rs. 37279 crore), Delhi (Rs. 13225 crore) and Tamil Nadu (Rs. 10655 crore) top the lists of defaulters of Rs. one crore and above (suit-filed and non-suit-filed), as on 31st March, 2004.

(c) Government of India and Reserve Bank of India have stipulated certain steps for recovery of loans, which, *inter-alia*, include evolving and implementing a recovery policy by banks, filing of suits in civil courts/ DRTs, issue of notices under SARFAESI Act, 2002, compromise settlement and monitoring and follow up of NPAs at various levels. The Credit Information Companies (Regulation) Act, 2005 has been enacted to provide for regulation of credit information companies and to facilitate efficient distribution of credit thereby arresting fresh accretion of NPAs. Credit Information Bureau (India) Ltd. has also been set up to disseminate information on borrowers to the Banks.